

Community Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
For the Cancer Cluster Investigation
August 17, 2011

TAC Purpose: a). To provide assistance in determining what questions should be examined regarding cancer numbers – geographic region, time period, types of cancers, etc. and then and b). To identify options for how to answer the question(s)/hypothesis(es).

Working Hypothesis: There is an increased rate of cancers (gather data on all, possibly narrow down later based on confirmed exposures) within a ¼ mile radius around Ft. Detrick (Area A and B).

I. Introductions

Members Present: J. Bee (via phone start of meeting); B. Brookmyer; J. Hahn; D. Rice; S. Rice; G. Rudy (toward the end); J. Sawitzke; R. Watkins; P and J Wolfe announced their leaving the area and no longer will be able to participate.

New Members Introduced: Paul Gordon; Violet Rice

II. Review of Notes from July 13 Meeting

No changes

III. Update on Ed Kruse's Research Efforts

Ed not available to provide update.

IV. Update from Members on Other Data Collection Efforts

a. School-linked case finding

Jen reported that Reunions.com was not as helpful as had been hoped. Three out of 5 and 2 out of 5 classes at the 2 high schools in the 1985-1990 time period did not have reunion information available. She joined Classmates.com and discovered that some of the class lists are not accurate based on funding persons listed in wrong class years. From her reaching out to the class presidents the response from e-mails that we distributed by class presidents generated the following responses – Class of 1990 (17 reported cancer out of class size ~150). Paul Gordon reported that he had previously compiled the Frederick HS list of names and year of graduation.

b. Old Address lists

Some discussion again regarding value of spending the time to reconstruct addresses, then names, and then follow-up with those names versus using the class lists to generate follow-up queries. Reviewed resources available to get property address and property owner by year to estimate population number by year by address to make better use of KRF data. Reviewed again the limitations of access to census data with the 70-year local down of street level data. No report available from a prior suggestion that access to population data be requested of Senator Mikulski when KRF meets with her.

- c. KRF
No update available regarding request to fund or establish ongoing cancer surveillance system.
- d. Maryland Cancer Registry Data Analysis
Next meeting October 5 in Winchester Hall to review the final report of the analysis of the Maryland-Cancer-Registry-data-from-the-time-period-1992-2008-for-the-specified-cancers-in-the-geographic-areas-examined.

V. Sharing of Other information Relevant to Member Interests

- a. National Academy of Sciences
No update available.
- b. Containment Laboratory Community Advisory Committee
Discussion of recent meeting, limited invitation list to the recent tour, safety concerns, and lack of consistency required at federal level.
- c. Story Collection
Jen and others plan to launch
- d. KRF
No update available of previously report of plan for Senator Mikulski visit.

VI. Next Meeting --- To be scheduled to accommodate Ed Kruse's availability